

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rep. Marsha Looper

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Rep. Looper: Conserving Colorado's Waters

Rep. Marsha Looper, R-Calhan, renewed her commitment to rural Colorado by announcing legislation to save its water.

Looper's proposal, House Bill 1129 would create a pilot program to collect rainwater from rooftops and other surfaces for farming and firefighting uses.

Rep. Looper says the pilot project can help the state save tens-of-thousands of acre-feet of water a year. "Most of our snow and rainwater evaporates before it even gets to our streams," Looper said. "That's water that literally vanishes into thin air, and that's water our farmers and firefighters in rural Colorado need."

Over the years, Colorado has seen its demand for water increase. With a dry climate and growing population, Rep. Looper believes that collecting rainwater is important to meeting Colorado's water needs.

"Keeping and conserving Colorado's water is an issue that is not going away anytime soon. It's time we put politics aside, and come together to create sensible solutions to this challenge," added Looper.

HB 1129 provides proper oversight, accountability and enforcement of the projects to ensure senior water rights are not affected.

"We want to ensure that this is a win-win situation for everyone in Colorado," said Looper.

Throughout the world, people have been collecting rainwater for thousands of years. With new collection and storage techniques, collecting rainwater has become both an efficient and affordable way to save water. In the United States, New Mexico, Oregon and Texas have provisions allowing the collection of rainwater.

HB 1129, will be presented to the House Agriculture, Livestock, & Natural Resources Committee on Wednesday, January 28th.

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